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## **Chapter 14 - Foreign Travel Information System (FTIS)**

## 1 Introduction

The Foreign Travel/Passport Information System (FTIS) contains information related to foreign travel to attend international meeting(s), work-related foreign travel for both ARS employees and non ARS travelers when ARS is paying. In addition, it contains information related to passport tracking, passport accountability and trip reports. FTIS is the agencies planning, management, tracking and approval system.

All travel for ARS employees to attend international meetings and all work-related ARS foreign travel must be entered into the Foreign Travel System for review and approval.

To enter the FTIS system, from the main ARIS splash Screen, select the FTIS icon (fig. 1), FTIS subsystem (fig. 2).

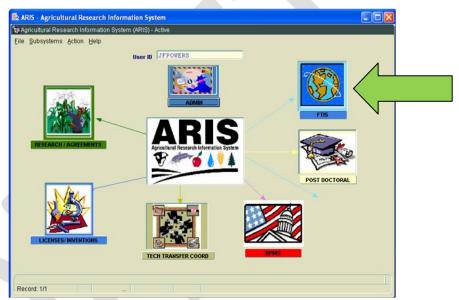


Figure 1 ARIS Main Splash Screen



Figure 2 FTIS Subsystem

## 2 Foreign Travel Records

## 2.1 Entering a New Trip

From the FTIS main menu, select "Work" and "Foreign Travel Records" from the menu bar (fig. 3). The list screen will be displayed (fig. 4).

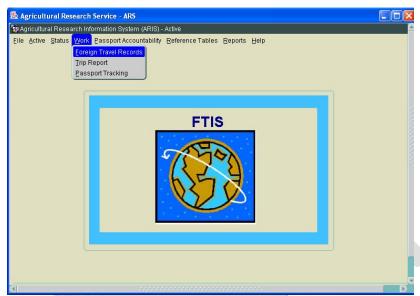


Figure 3 Work/Foreign Travel Records

Current work records will be displayed on list screen. To add a new trip, select the "Add Trip" button (fig. 4).

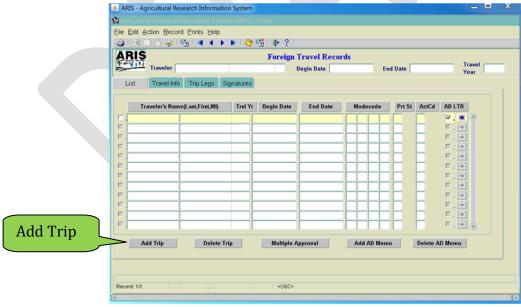


Figure 4 List Screen

A blank Travel Information screen will be displayed (fig. 5).

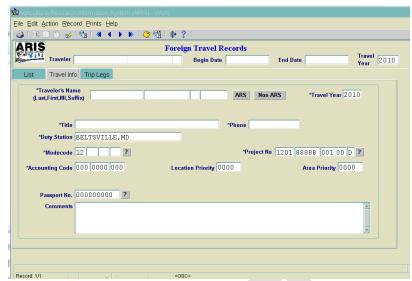
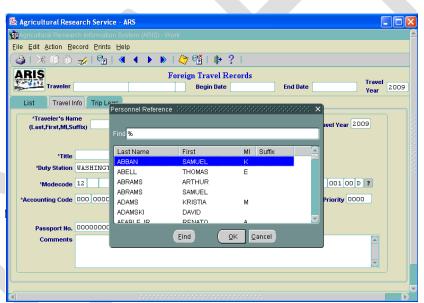


Figure 5 Blank add Trip screen

Enter all information on the Travel Info screen. The traveler's name **must** be selected by clicking on the ARS or Non ARS button. A query screen is displayed (fig. 6).





**Figure 6 Traveler Name Search** 

Scroll down the list to find the correct traveler or search for the employee by using the "Find" option (eg. %adams%). Once the employee is located, highlight the individual and select "OK". The system will automatically insert the traveler's mode code and passport number.

Unpopulated fields with an \* are *mandatory*, such as traveler's title, phone number, duty station, project number, search by selecting the question mark **(?)**, and accounting code.

Optional fields include Location Priority, Area Priority and Comments. Comments that are pertinent to travel and/or helpful to the approving official should be entered in detail. More information is better than less.

Note: For more information on each data entry field, see "General Helpful Information" section 7.

When data entry is complete, click in the "Trip Legs" screen and the Trip Leg List screen will be displayed

(fig. 7).

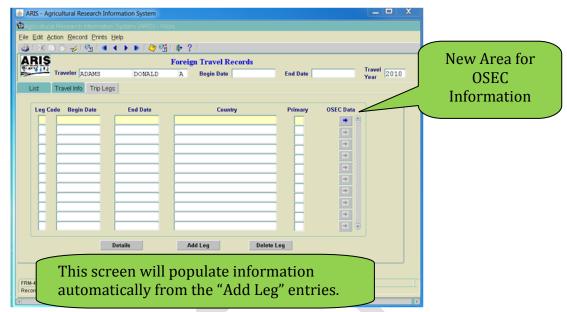


Figure 7 Trip Legs Screen

TO add a leg, select the "**Add Leg**" button at the bottom of the screen and a Leg screen will be displayed (fig. 8).

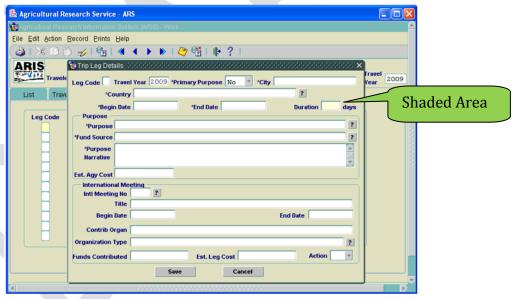


Figure 8 Add Leg Screen

Use of the (?), displays a drop down menu; you must use the List of Values (LOV) to choose the data. Once in the LOV, highlight the correct option, and select OK.

Trip Leg Details		Purpose Section		International Meeting Section	
Leg Code	A-Z	Purpose	Select (?)	Intl Meeting No	Select (?)
Travel Year	April 1-March 31	Fund Source	Select (?)	Title	Pre-populated
Primary Purpose	Y or N	Purpose	Free form text	Begin Date	Pre-populated
City	Free form text	Est. Agency Cost	Enter \$ amount	End Date	Pre-populated
Country	Select (?)			Contrib Organ	Free form text
Begin Date	Enter date			Organization Type	Select (?)
End Date	Enter Date			Funds Contributed	Free form text
Duration	Auto Populate			Est. Leg Cost	Free form text
				Action	A or D

Unpopulated fields with an \* are **mandatory**. Once saved the added leg is displayed on the "Trip Legs" screen (fig. 12).

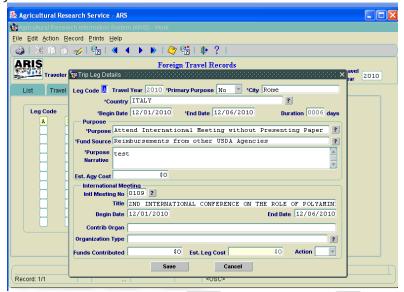


Figure 12 Completed Trip leg details screen

When all legs are added, click on the "OSEC Data" button on the "Trip Legs" screen to add required information and save prior to moving to other screens (fig. 13). OSEC information must be entered *for each leg* by selecting the OSEC Data button.

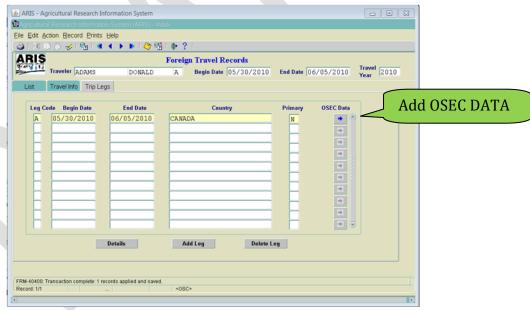


Figure 13 Saved Legs

Selecting the OSEC Data button will display the OSEC Details Screen. Enter the Role of Traveler and the Benefit to USDA and select "Save" (Note: The Report Name/Number is "grayed out" and will be completed by TRSB when submitted to OSEC for consideration) (fig. 14).

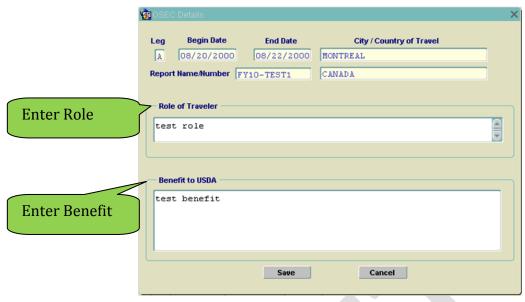


Figure 14 OSEC Roles and Benefits

#### Role of Traveler

The role of the traveler should specifically state the tasks and/or responsibilities of the traveler as they relate to the individual leg of the trip.

### **Sufficient Response:**

Technical expert on agricultural international collaborations between the US and Pakistan

#### **Insufficient Response:**

Attending conference

#### Benefit to USDA

The benefit to USDA must be clearly stated and concise. Simply being invited to attend an event is not sufficient; the justification must indicate how the travel or attendance at a meeting or conference will specifically benefit the mission of the Agency and USDA. Simply stating that the trip ties in to a USDA or ARS priority is not sufficient. There needs to be an explanation of how the trip ties into the priority and how it provides a benefit under that priority.

#### **Sufficient Response:**

One of the challenges in current mass spectrometry (MS)-based proteomics field is the rapid development cycle for new analytical tools and associated technologies. Developing and implementing the relevant technologies and skills become increasingly important to those involved with applying proteomics techniques in agricultural research. By attending this meeting, I will have the opportunity to facilitate the exchange of scientific ideas, knowledge and information to promote the application of proteomic. The meeting is an excellent forum for evaluating the latest technology because all the major mass spectrometry vendors and proteomics software supplies will present their latest development.

#### **Insufficient Response:**

The travel will benefit both USDA and ARS because it ties to REE Priority 4, Global Food Security.

Once all required OSEC information has been entered for the leg click the "Save" button. If additional legs are required for the trip, select the "Add Leg" button for each additional leg, and include the OSEC information for each leg (fig. 15).



Figure 15 save OSEC Data

Incorrect legs can be removed by highlighting the incorrect leg and select "Delete Leg" (use caution when deleting a Leg). For changes, highlight the leg on the List screen and select the "Details" button. The Leg screen will be displayed. Modify as necessary and select "Save." Entry of the Trip is now complete (fig. 16).

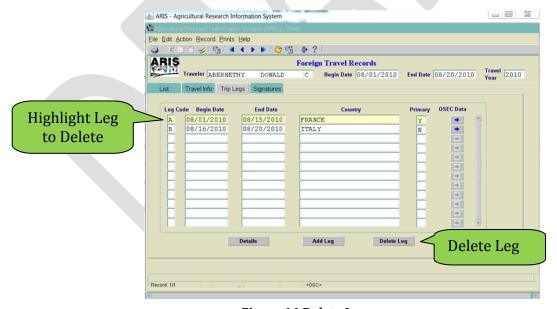
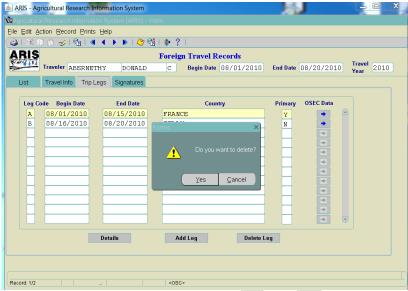


Figure 16 Delete Leg

A confirmation window will be displayed (fig. 17), select "Yes" to delete the leg or "Cancel" if leg was chosen in error.



**Figure 17 Delete Leg Confirmations** 

### 2.2 Late Justification Letter

All trips <u>MUST</u> be entered and approved in FTIS *at least* 45 days prior to the trip departure date. In the event that a situation arises where a last minute request necessitates foreign travel within a 45-day window, only the following two exceptions will be considered:

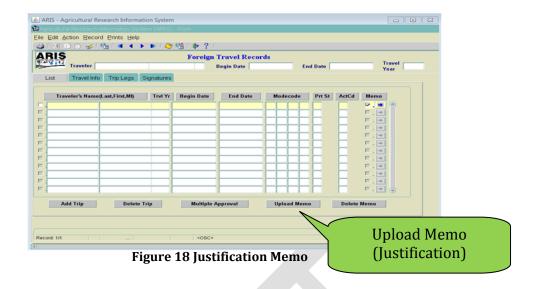
- 1. The inviting organization changes the schedule of a planned meeting/conference, or
- 2. An emerging issue related to an REE or USDA priority requires unanticipated foreign travel.

A justification letter from the Agency Administrator (or designee) or, for ARS, the Area Director or HQ Office/Staff Director, as applicable, is required for all travel within 45 days that meet these exceptions. The justification must clearly state the reason for the short notice. This letter must then be attached to the FTIS record by selecting the "Add Memo" button.

- Ensure that a copy of the SIGNED Late Justification letter has been saved to your computer.
- Suggested naming convention is: Travelers last name/country of travel/departure date/justification letter. *Ex:SMITH-ITALY-8.28.10-JUSTIFICATION*

Once your Foreign Travel Record has been created to include all legs and OSEC data, select the "List" screen, to display your current trip(s).

Select the "Upload Memo" button to open the add record screen (fig. 18).



Select the "Browse" button to locate and upload the late justification letter from your computer (fig. 19).

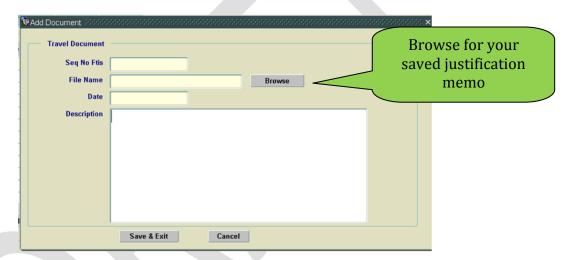


Figure 19 Browse for Justification Memo

You will receive a confirmation that the file has uploaded successfully and the file will be displayed. Add a description and select "Save & Exit" (fig. 20).

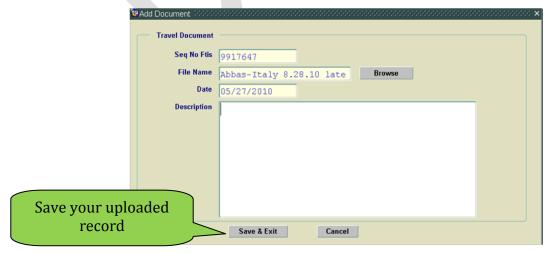


Figure 20 Confirmation of successful upload

### 2.3 Approving Foreign Travel

To approve a foreign trip, highlight the trip requiring approval from the List screen and select the Signatures screen. The Approval screen will be displayed (fig. 21).

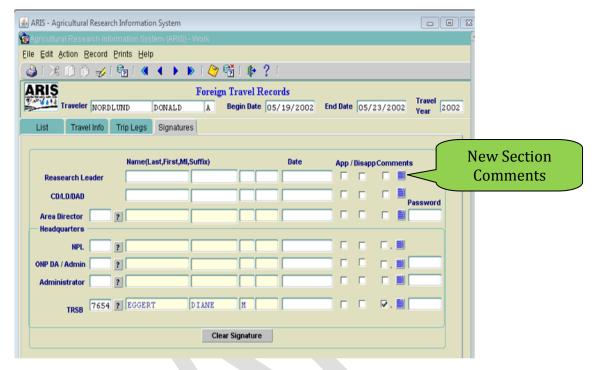


Figure 21 Approval Page/Comments

- For RL, CD/LD/DAD signature, enter the last name, first name, and middle initial. The date will auto populate when the signature is added, select approve/disapproved.
- For Area signatures, enter the appropriate signature code and date, select approved or disapproved. A password is required for Area Director Signatures.

A "Comments" box is now available for additional comments to be entered by the approving official. A check mark next to the *Comments* button on the Signatures Screen indicates that the approver at that level has entered a comment. If TRSB returns a trip to the area for any reason, a comment will be entered on the Signatures Screen (see 1.3.1).

(**NOTE:** Follow your Area process for approval of foreign travel).

Once signature is entered, to save select "Record" and "Save" or the Save Icon.

### 2.3.1 Entering Comments

Each signature level has the ability to enter comments into FTIS. Select the "Comments" button (next to your level) to display the Signature Remarks window (fig. 22).

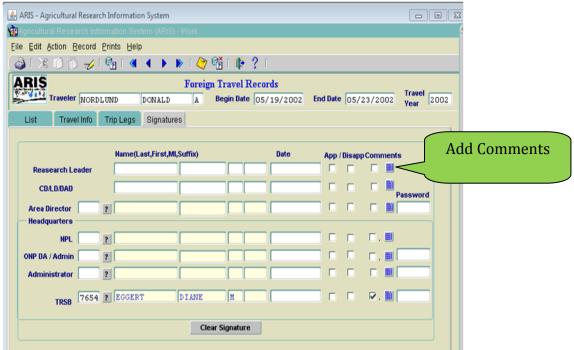


Figure 22 Add Comments

A signature Remarks window will be displayed, enter comments as necessary and select "Save" (fig.23).

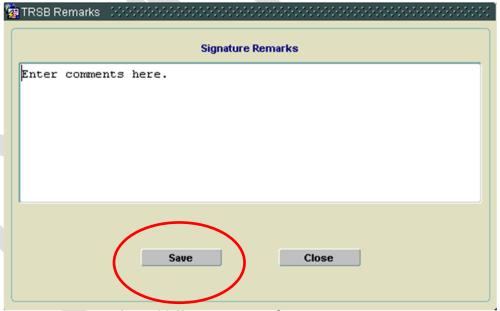


Figure 23 Signature Remarks

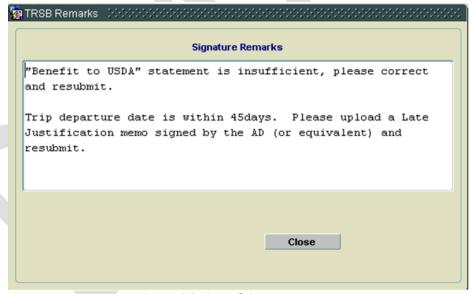
### 2.3.2 Viewing Comments

To view comments select the "Comments" button (fig. 24).



Figure 24 Comments available to view

The comments will be displayed in the TRSB Remarks window. Once comments have been read, select "Close" (fig. 25).

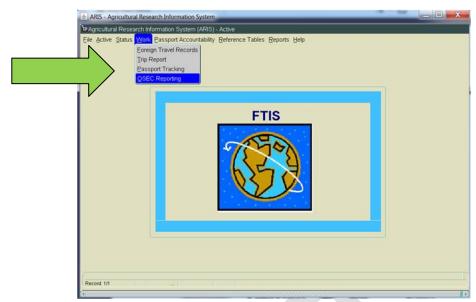


**Figure 25 Viewed Comments** 

## 2.4 OSEC Approval Reports

Each level has the ability to run a report that includes OSEC data in FTIS awaiting submission to TRSB for OSEC approval.

Select "Work" and "OSEC Reporting" (fig. 26).



**Figure 26 OSEC Reporting** 

All records viewable at your level will display. Mark the records ready for approval. Once the records are marked select "Prints", "Extract to Excel" (fig. 27).

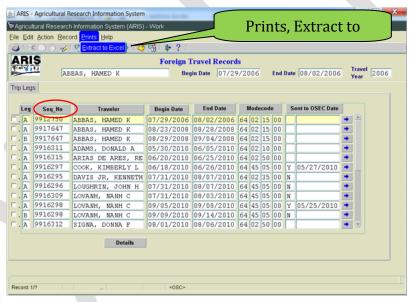


Figure 27 Records awaiting approval

The report will be displayed in Excel (displaying in the OSEC submission format), remember changes to a report in excel will not update in FTIS, if changes are required, please make the change in FTIS and rerun the report (fig.28).

$\langle$	TRIP ID NO	AREA	TRAVELER NAME(S)	ROLE OF EACH TRAVELER	BEGIN DATE OF TRAVELER	END DATE OF TRAVELER	INTERNATIONAL MEETING NO	MEETING NAME
Ī	9916298	MSA	LOVANH, NANH C	Will work with collaborators at the	September 9, 2010	September 14, 2010		
	9916298	MSA	LOVANH, NANH C		September 5, 2010	September 8, 2010		
	9916312	MSA	SIGNA, DONNA F		August 25, 2010	August 28, 2010		
	9916312	MSA	SIGNA, DONNA F		August 11, 2010	August 25, 2010		
	9916312	MSA	SIGNA, DONNA F	To make contact with test people	August 1, 2010	August 6, 2010	1	9TH WORLD
	9916309	MSA	LOVANH, NANH C	Presenter - "Zipadee Doo Dah"	July 31, 2010	August 3, 2010	1	9TH WORLD
	9916296	MSA	LOUGHRIN, JOHN H	Presenter - "The ABC's of Animal	July 31, 2010	August 7, 2010	1	9TH WORLD
	9916295	MSA	DAVIS JR, KENNETH B	Presenter - "ABCD of Animal	July 31, 2010	August 7, 2010	1	9TH WORLD

Figure 28 Sample Report

*NOTE*: The OSEC report displays each leg of the trip on an individual line, connected by the "Trip ID No/Sequence Number".

TRSB obtains all information for the OSEC submission from the "Trip Leg" fields of Area Approved FTIS Foreign Travel Records. Therefore it is critical that ALL information entered in FTIS be as complete and accurate as possible.

The following fields are extracted from the FTIS records to create the OSEC report.

- Begin Date
- End Date
- City/Country
- Purpose Narrative (800 characters)
- Estimated Agency Cost
- ➤ International Meeting # and Name
- Contributing Organization
- > Funds Contributed \$ amount
- ➤ Role of Traveler (100 characters)
- ➤ Benefit to USDA (800 characters)

## 2.5 "Status" Updates for OSEC Approval

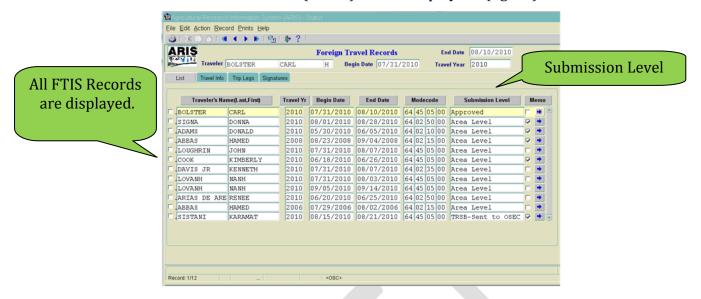
There are various submission levels in regard to Foreign Travel. This information can be viewed under "Status", "Foreign Travel Records" (fig. 29).

RL Level	Original point of entry and/or waiting approval by RL
CD/LD/DAD	Original point of entry and/or waiting on approval by CD/LD/DAD
Area	Waiting approval by Area Director
NPS level	Original point of entry for NPS and/or waiting on approval by HQ
TRSB	Approved through Area or HQ Admin and waiting on submittal to OSEC
TRSB	Sent to OSEC-Collected by TRSB to send to OSEC for consideration
Approved	Approved by OSEC in FTIS, will move to the Active file overnight



Figure 29 Status Query for Submission Level

All records in FTIS to include submission level (status) will be displayed. (fig. 27).



**Figure 27 All Travelers in FTIS** 

To determine the status or Submission Level of your travelers, select "Status", "Query Screen" (fig. 28).

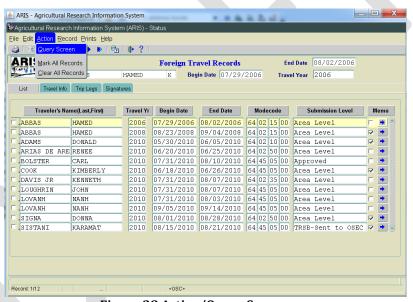


Figure 28 Active/Query Screen

You can query for an individual traveler, or for a period of time. If searching for a travel period enter into the "Begin Date" field the date of travel you are looking for (ex. 6/1/10:12/31/10) and enter (fig. 29).

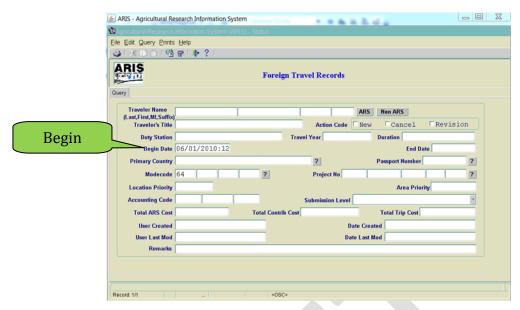


Figure 29 Query Screen

The list of travelers matching your query and their Status/Submission level will be displayed (fig. 30).

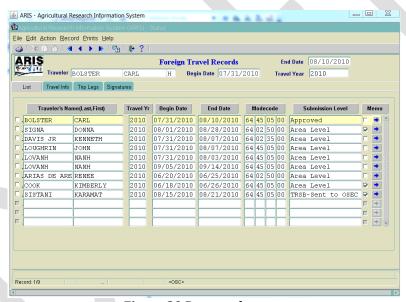


Figure 30 Returned query

### 2.6 Returned Records from TRSB

TRSB will notify the Area Transportation Assistant via e-mail to include an attachment of the FTIS Foreign trip record. Once received the ATA must access the record via "Work" and display the comments on the signature page.

#### 2.7 Modifications

## 2.7.1 Work Trip/Leg Data

From the Foreign Travel **Work** List Screen, highlight the trip to be modified.

For general modifications, such as travel year, accounting codes, or comments, select the Travel Info screen and the Travel Info screen will be displayed. Make any necessary modifications and select the List screen to return to the List screen.

The system will prompt you to save changes. Select OK and changes will save.

For necessary modifications to trip legs, from the List screen highlight the trip to be modified and select the Trip Legs tab. The Trip Legs List screen will be displayed. Highlight the Leg to be modified and select the Details button.

Make the necessary modifications and select the Save button. The system will save the changes and return you to the Leg List screen.

Once all necessary modifications are complete, follow your Area process for approval.

### 2.7.2 Active Trip/Leg Data

To modify an **Active** Trip (*trip previously approved*), a work record must be created.

Select "Active", "Foreign Travel Records" (fig. 31) from the main FTIS screen.



Figure 31 Modification of Active Record

Enter the information on the query screen to obtain the trip that requires modification, once all data is entered, select the Execute Query icon and a listing will be displayed for all trips that meet the search criteria (fig. 32).

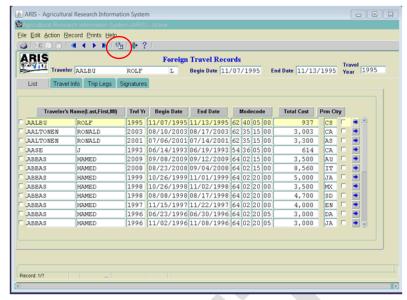
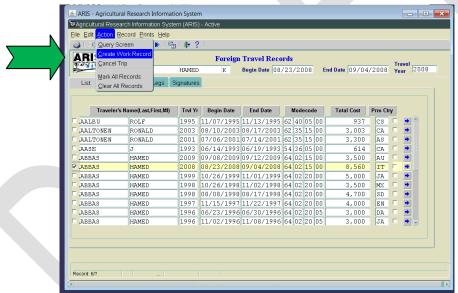


Figure 32 Modification of Active Record Query Screen

Once the listing is displayed, mark the trip to be modified, select "Action" and "Create Work Record" from the toolbar (fig. 33).



**Figure 33 Create Work Record** 

FTIS will prompt you to confirm request "Do you want to continue creating work records?" (fig. 34).

Select "Yes" and a FTIS window acknowledgement of "Marked Record Processing is Complete" will display.

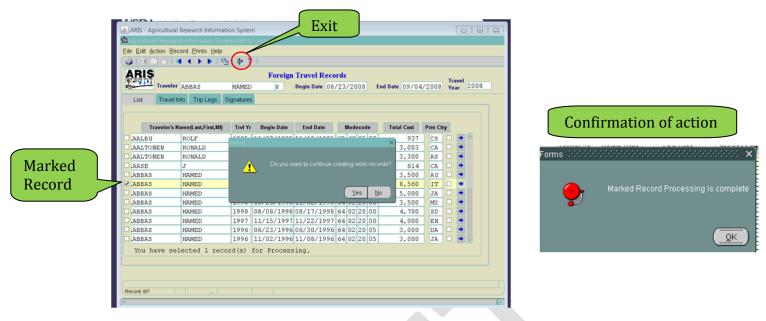


Figure 34 Create Work Record Confirmation

Upon confirmation that the "Work" record is created, exit out of Active and select "Work" and "Foreign Travel Records" (Fig. 35).



Figure 35 Work/Foreign Travel Records

All records currently at your level will be displayed on the "List" Screen (fig. 36).

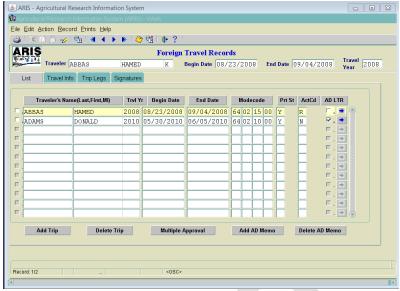


Figure 36 List Display

The requested record will be displayed (Fig. 37). Highlight the record to be modified, and go to the Travel Info, Trip Legs or Signature screen to make modifications as necessary.

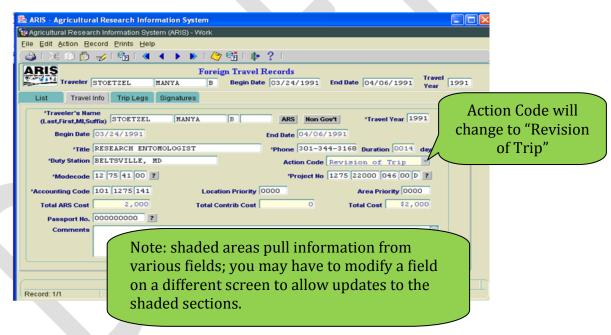


Figure 37 Modification of "Active" record in "Work"

Enter comments pertaining to the change, make modifications and route the record for "Approval" as normal.

#### 2.8 Cancellations

To cancel an approved Foreign Travel Record, select "Active", "Foreign Travel Records" from the main FTIS screen (Fig. 38)

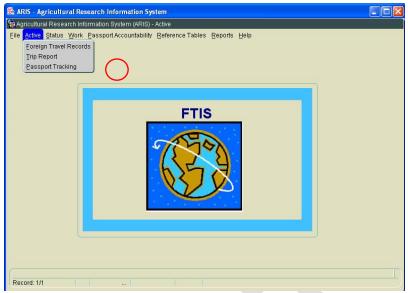


Figure 38 Active, Foreign Travel Records

A query screen is auto displayed. Enter the necessary information to obtain the trip that requires cancellation (fig. 39). Once all data is entered, select the Execute Query icon.

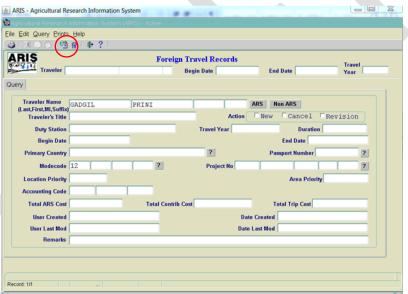


Figure 39 Query Screen

A list will be display with all trips that meet the search criteria. Mark the trip to be cancelled and select "Action", "Cancel Trip" from the toolbar (fig. 40).

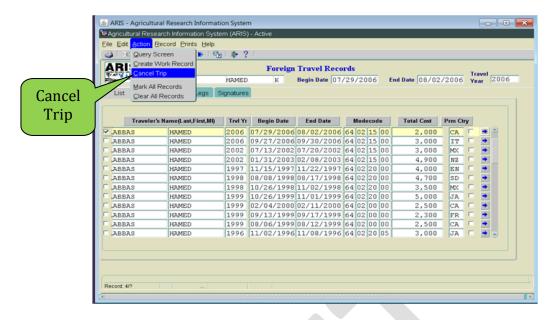
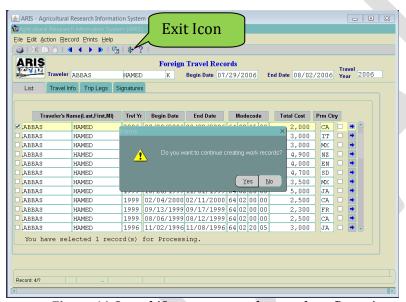


Figure 40 Query Display Screen

The cancel trip will create a new work record and a confirmation screen will display. Select YES (Fig. 41)



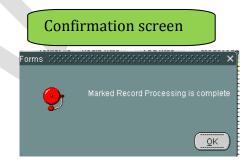


Figure 41 Cancel/Create new work record confirmation

Exit out of Active.

Select "Work" and "Foreign Travel Records" to access the record (fig. 42).

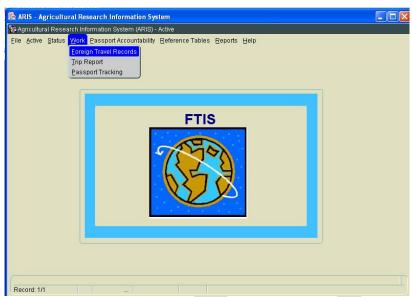


Figure 42 Cancelled Record moved to "Work"

Query or select the work record to be cancelled (fig. 43)

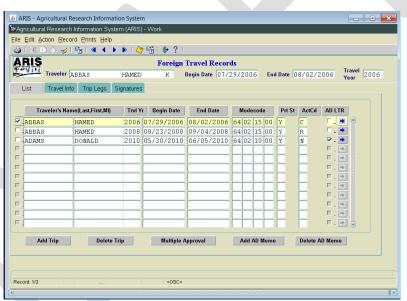
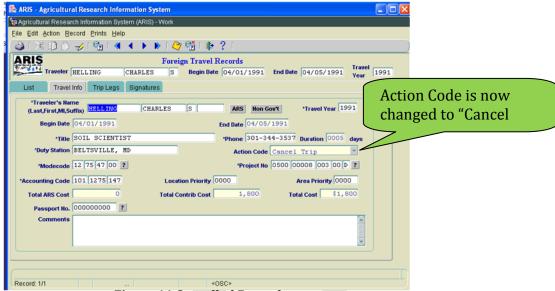


Figure 43 Select Cancelled Record

Select the Travel Info screen (fig. 44)



**Figure 44 Cancelled Record** 

Enter Comments pertaining to cancellation and route record for "Approval" as normal, once approved the trip is confirmed cancelled.

NOTE: Records selected in "Active" for modification or cancellations are not committed until approved through all levels. If you have selected a record in error, from the "List" screen, you can delete the trip and it will remove *ONLY* the modification/cancellation request it will not delete the "Active" original Trip record.

## 3 Trip Reports

In order to add a Trip Report, from the FTIS main screen, select "Work" and "Trip Report" from the toolbar (fig. 45).



Figure 45 New Trip Report

The Foreign Travel Trip Reports List screen will be displayed. Trip Reports already created (at your level) will be displayed (fig. 46). Select "Action/Query" or the Query Icon to search for a specific trip report already in process.

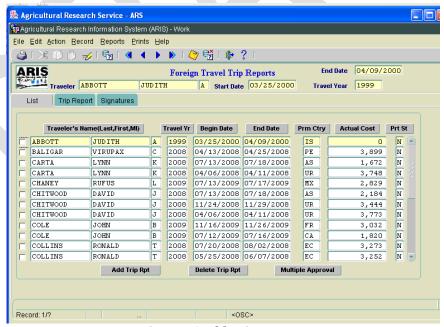


Figure 46 Add Trip Report

For all **NEW** trip reports, select "Add Trip Rpt". The "Add Trip Rpt" option opens a query screen (fig. 47). *NOTE: Only trips that do not have a trip report in process will be displayed.* Select the traveler/trip and OK.

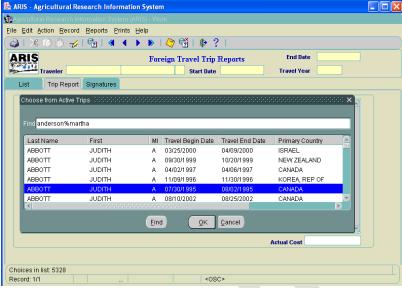


Figure 47 Traveler/Trip Search

Enter the trip report information by directly typing in the space provided or copy/paste into the space. In addition, the Actual Cost of the trip should be entered. When complete, save (fig. 48).

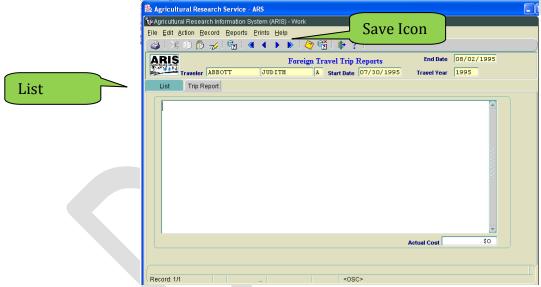
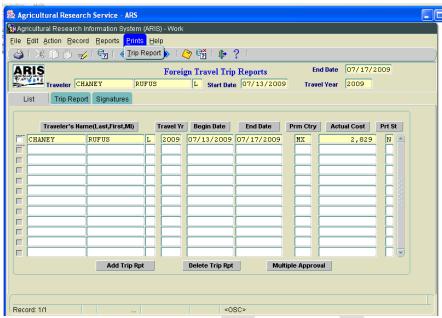


Figure 48 Enter Trip Report

Once saved, select the List Screen.

The new trip report is now on the list, and the "Trip Report" and "Signatures" screens are displayed. Select the "Signatures" screen and enter the name(s) of the approving individuals, save.

In order to print the Trip Report, select "Prints" and "Trip Report" from the toolbar (fig. 49). Adobe Acrobat will automatically display the Trip Report. To print, select the Printer icon.



**Figure 49 Print Trip Report** 

## 4 Passport Tracking

Once a trip has been approved in the Foreign Travel system, FTIS auto creates the Passport Tracking record; this module will be used to monitor the flow of paperwork required to process requests for official passports, visas, and country clearances.

All users of the Foreign Travel system are able to view the information in the Passport Tracking System to check the status of their passports and clearances, *records in process* will be viewed from the *Status screen*, *completed records* can be viewed from the *Active Screen*.

Only Area level and TRSB personnel can enter data into the Passport Tracking record.

## 4.1 Query via Work, Status or Active

From the FTIS main screen, select "Work" and "Passport Tracking" (fig. 50)



Figure 50 Passport Tracking

The Passport Tracking List screen will be displayed (fig. 51).

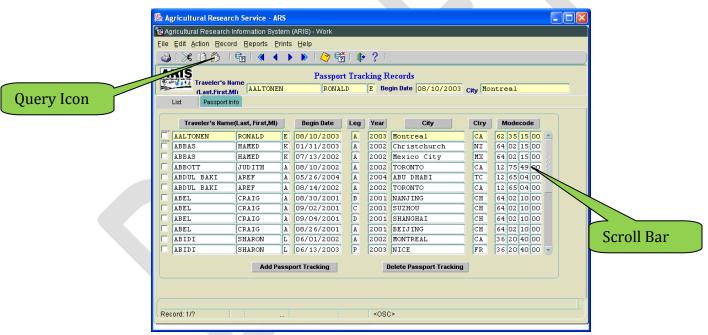


Figure 51 Passport List

To find a particular traveler or passport record, select the Query icon and a query screen will be displayed (fig. 52).

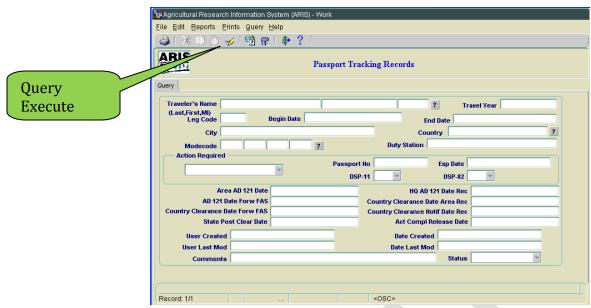


Figure 52 Query Screen

Enter the search criteria and select Execute. The system will be displayed all records that meet the criteria (fig. 53).

Note: Search criteria may be name, mode code, country ect.



Figure 53 Display Screen

To view the tracking information, select the box to the left of the name and select "Passport Info". The Passport Tracking record will be displayed (fig. 54/55).

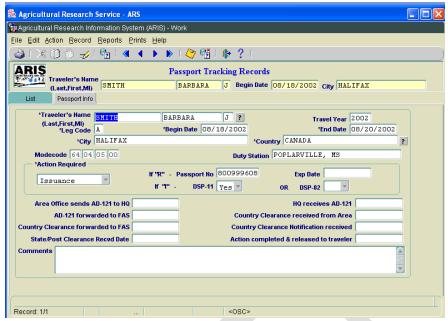


Figure 54 Tracking information

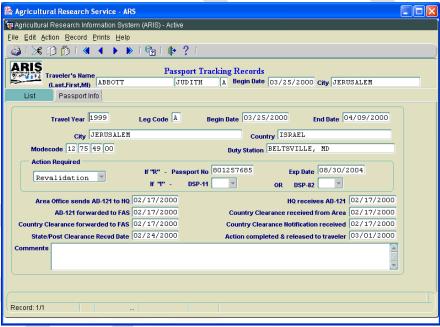


Figure 55 Completed Passport Tracking Record in Active

## 4.2 Adding a Record to "Work"

FTIS will allow you to add a record to Passport Tracking, however, the Passport tracking record is created when a Foreign Travel Record is created and approved. Missing passport tracking records may be the result of unapproved Foreign Travel Records. There should not be a need to add a new Passport Tracking record, however if required: Choose "Add Passport Tracking" from the Passport Tracking Records page (fig. 56)

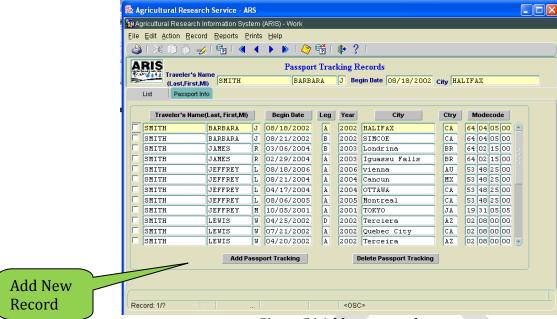


Figure 56 Add new record

Choose the "?" after the traveler's name to conduct a name search, a "Personnel Reference" search page will be displayed (fig. 57)

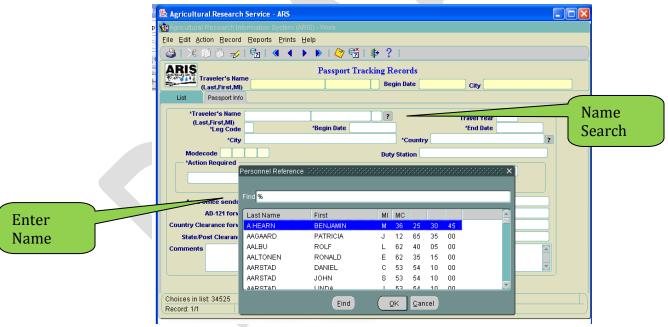


Figure 57 Name Search

Type in the traveler's last name by the"%" and select "Find" a similar name list will be displayed, to search for first and last name use the % between the names Smith%John. Once identified select "OK," (Fig. 58)

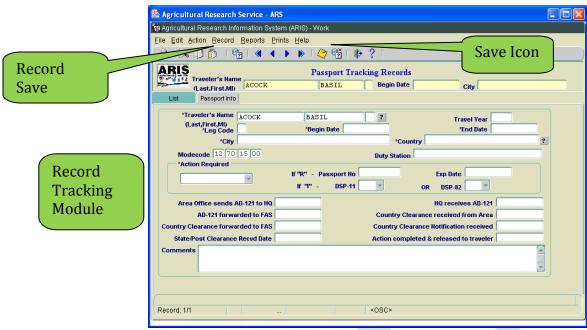


Figure 58 New Tracking Record

Record tracking of actions is required;

- 1. The Area will enter the date of when the AD-121 was sent to HQ (TRSB).
- 2. Once information has been completed and saved FTIS will auto forward the record to TRSB or choose "Action" and "Release to TRSB."
- 3. Once released to TRSB, TRSB will update the record accordingly; each entry when updated must be saved.
- 4. Records will route to the "Active" file when "Action completed & Released to Traveler" is entered and the record saved.

The system will automatically enter the traveler's name and mode code. Complete all required and optional fields and save the record by selecting "Record" from the drop down menu and "Save", or select the save icon.

Once saved, a confirmation message will be displayed indicating the "transaction has been completed and one record has been saved". When ready forward the record to TRSB for processing by selecting "Action" from the drop down menu and "Release to TRSB." Only TRSB will have the capability to update the record accordingly.

## 5 Passport Accountability Records

Passport Accountability Records is used to track official passports for ARS and NIFA (CSREES), ERS and NASS have their own in Agency Tracking system. Since all REE Agencies retain their own passports, a tracking system is required by the Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS), International Travel Section (ITS). FAS, ITS allows REE agencies to retain passports instead of returning them to ITS.

Maintenance of Passport Accountability is at the TRSB Level only.

From the main FTIS main, choose "Passport Accountability." Select the appropriate agency from the drop down menu (ARS, NIFA (CSREES) (fig 59).

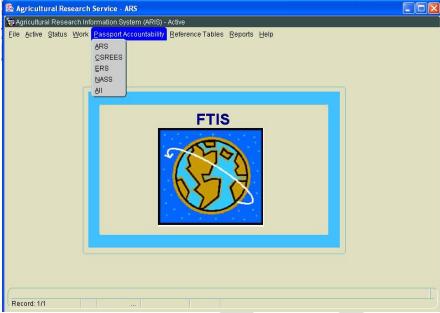


Figure 59 Passport Accountability

## 5.1 Query for a specific Passport or Traveler

### 5.1.1 ARS

Enter Passport number or query by Name % once the query items are selected select "Query/Execute" (Fig. 60). Or query a record by choosing the **(?)** after the Name field. (note: only ARS displays the name query icon (?))

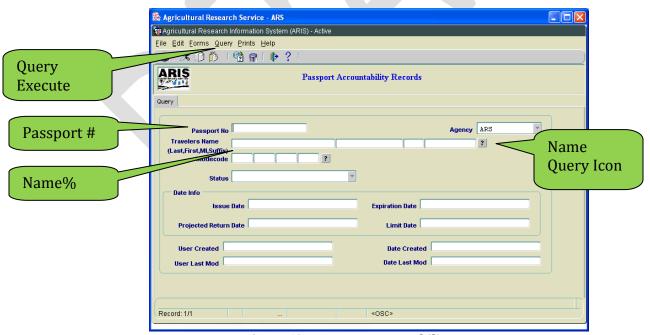
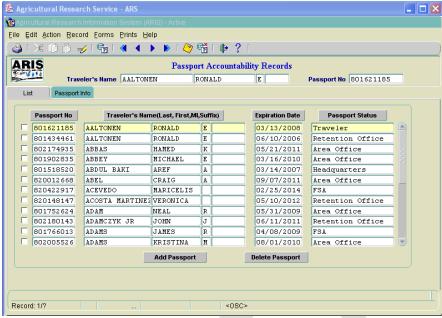


Figure 60 Passport Accountability query

Records that match your query will be displayed (Fig. 61)



**Figure 61 Name List** 

It is the Area office's responsibility to ensure that all Passport Accountability records are current and up to date. Notify TRSB of any passport record which require the following action:

Deletion of old expired or duplicate passport records Deletion of passport records for individuals no longer with the Agency Updating of existing records with new passport numbers and expiration dates

The Passport Custodian has the capability to update the "Passport Status" field (Fig. 62)

Ensure Passport Status location is current Passport Custodian will show Passport Status as sent to HQ when appropriate TRSB will update this field identifying the location while the passport is in process

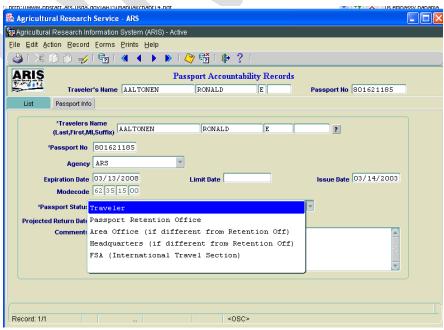


Figure 62 Passport Status

### 5.1.2 NIFA (CSREES)

Enter Passport number or query by Name; once the search criteria are entered select "Query/Execute" (fig. 63).

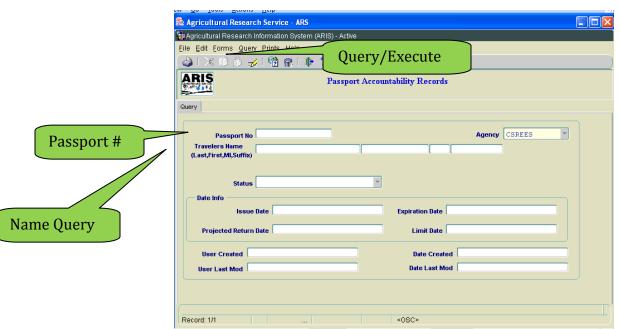


Figure 63 Passport Accountability query

Passports matching your query will be displayed (fig. 64).

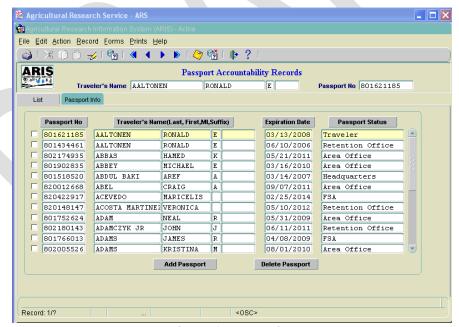


Figure 64 Name List

The NIFA Travel Office has TRSB level access and will update their passports as required to include:

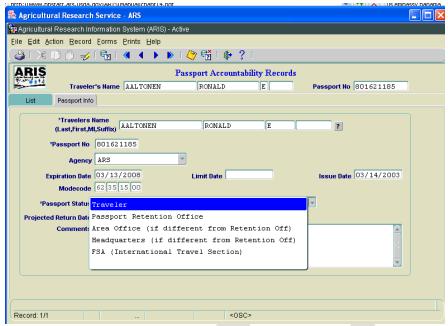
Ensuring that all Passport Accountability records are current and up to date

Deletion of old expired or duplicate passport records

Deletion of passport records for individuals no longer with the Agency

Undating of existing records with new passport numbers and expiration dates.

Updating of existing records with new passport numbers and expiration dates Ensure Passport Status location is current (Fig. 65)



**Figure 65 Passport Status** 

## 5.2 Display/Print

To obtain a list of all passports in your area of responsibility choose "Passport Accountability" and Agency (fig. 66)

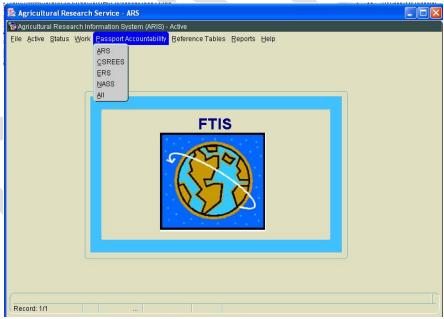


Figure 66

Enter to display ALL passports under your view, to limit the display search by Mode Code or Name. Once your search data has been entered select "Query/Execute" or the Execute Icon (Fig. 67).

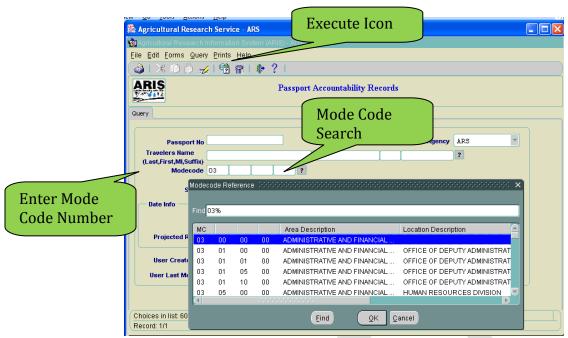


Figure 67 Query Search by Mode code

All data matching your query will be displayed (fig. 68)

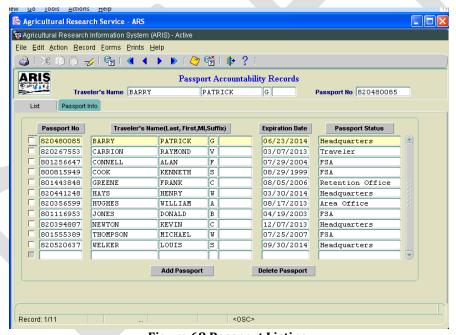


Figure 68 Passport Listing

To print/display, all items select "Action/Mark all records" for individual selection choose the Passport record by selecting the box to the left of the name (fig. 69), "Prints" will open up a new print window allowing you to print as normal.

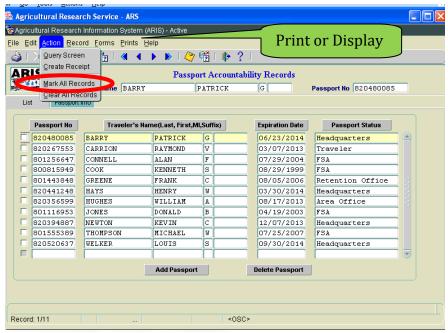
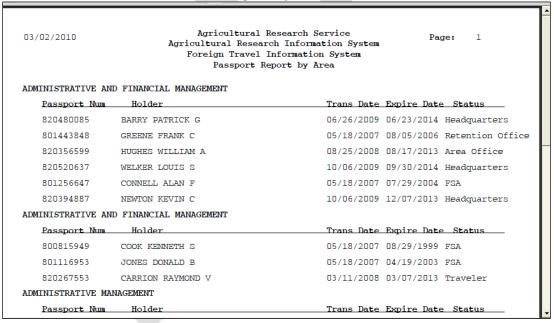


Figure 69 Mark all Records

## **5.2.1 Print Options-Sample Reports**

### Report by Area



### Traveler Passport

Agricultural Research Service 03/02/2010 Page: Agricultural Research Information System

Foreign Travel Information System Official Passport Accountability

BARRY PATRICK G Passport Holder: Agency: ARS

Status of the Passport Headquarters Passport Number: 820480085

Expiration Date: 06/23/2014 Passport Location: Limit Date: 06/24/2009 Project Return Date: Issue Date:

ModeCode: 0318-01-00

Description: ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FACILITIES DIVISION OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

Remarks:

Passport Holder: CARRION RAYMOND V Agency: ARS

Status of the Passport Traveler

Expiration Date: 03/07/2013 Passport Number: 820267553

Limit Date: Passport Location:

Project Return Date: 03/08/2008 Issue Date:

ModeCode: 0318-10-15

Description: ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FACILITIES DIVISION FACILITIES ENGINEERING BRANCH

#### Create Receipt

03/02/2010 Page: Agricultural Research Information System Foreign Travel Information System

Passport Accountability Receipt

Agricultural Research Service

Passport Holder: BARRY PATRICK G Agency: ARS

Passport Number: 820480085 Status of the Passport Headquarters Expiration Date: 06/23/2014

Limit Date:

1

Issue Date: 06/24/2009

ModeCode: Description:

0318-01-00 ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FACILITIES DIVISION

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

### FTIS Reference Tables

Three Reference tables are available for use in the Foreign Travel Information System - "Non-Gov't Travelers tables", "Country" and "International Meeting Records" (fig. 70).

NOTE: Individuals who are no longer employed by ARS and are travelling on behalf of ARS must have a profile created in the "Non-Gov't Travelers Table", if an employee has left ARS do not use the profile which may still display under the employee search option.

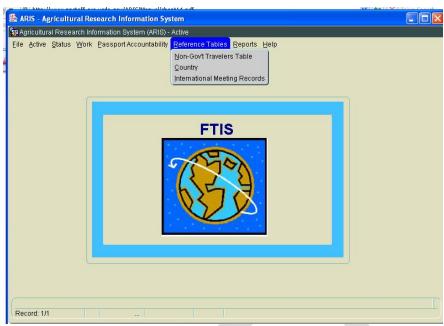


Figure 70 Reference Tables

### 6.1 Non-Gov't Travelers Table

Entry of new individual traveler information is available at every level, check with your Area Office to determine permissions for creation of new Non-Gov't Traveler Records. Notify TRSB for records that are identified as Obsolete.

#### 6.1.1 New Traveler Record

Used for travelers who do not have a profile in the FTIS system. Creating a profile allows entry of Foreign Travel Records and Trip Reports for Non-Gov't Traveler.

Select "Action/Query Screen" to search for Travelers Name. (Fig. 71)



Figure 71 Query Screen

If traveler does not display, select "Add Traveler Record" to create new profile. Traveler information is minimum, enter Name and Social Security Number, select save. (fig. 72)

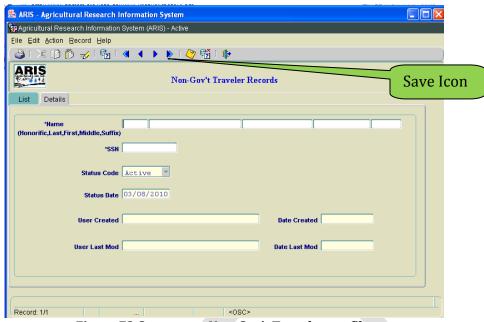


Figure 72 Create new Non-Gov't Traveler profile

## 6.1.2 Obsolete Profiles

Travel Profiles which are no longer required may have their "Status Code" changed to Obsolete (obsolete, profiles will not display when queried by name, however a query on "Status Obsolete" will be displayed all obsolete profiles) (fig. 73/74).

Only TRSB has the authority to convert an Active profile to Obsolete, please notify TRSB of any Non-Gov't profile changes.

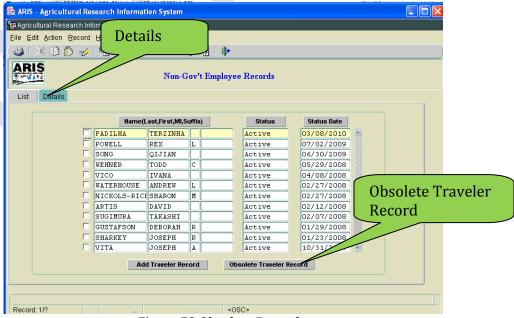


Figure 73 Obsolete Records

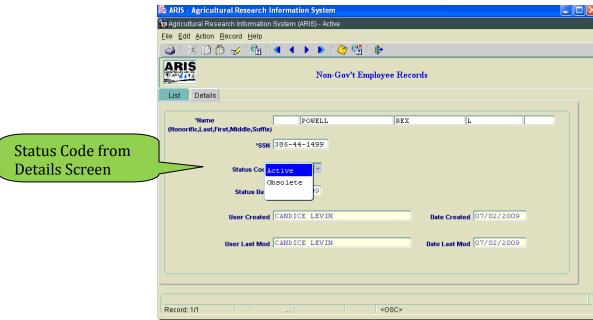


Figure 74 Details Screen

## **6.2 International Meeting Records**

### Calendar

FTIS utilizes a rule based calendar beginning on April 1st and ending on March 31st. For example travel in February 2010 is identified as travel year 2009, since April will be the beginning of the 2010 travel year.

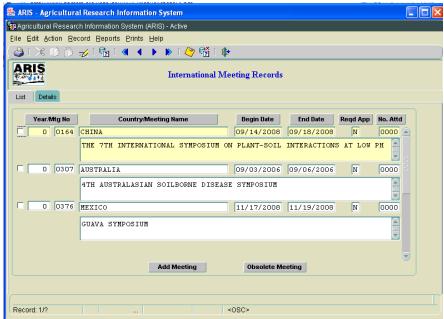
The ARS travel office (TRSB) will enter into FTIS all International Meeting numbers, if the meeting you are attending is not listed, please contact TRSB.

To display the current listing of international meetings, select "Reference Tables" and "International Meeting Records" from the main FTIS screen. (fig. 75)



**Figure 75 International Meeting Records** 

The International Meeting Tables will be displayed (fig. 76).



**Figure 76 Listing of International Meetings** 

To search for a specific meeting, country or year, select the Query icon or "Action/Query" and a Query screen will be displayed. (fig 77)

🙇 ARIS - Agricultural Research Information System
Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS) - Active
Eile Edit Query Reports Prints Help
ARIS International Meeting Records
Query
Meeting No Trip Year Status Active
Country ITALY ?
City
Meeting Name
Begin Meeting Date Ending Meeting Date
Number of Attendees
Should Trips having this Meeting be Approved by NPS   Status Date
Record: 1/1

Figure 77 Country Search Italy

A Country search of "Italy%" will be displayed all International Meetings held in Italy (fig 78).

Note: It is recommended that the wildcard (%) be used for all country search requests.

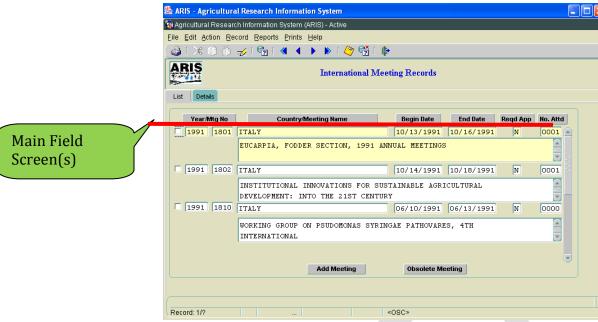


Figure 78 Returned display

International Meeting Tables may be displayed by ascending or descending order by selecting the main field screens. For the most recent meetings in Italy select "Year/Mtg No" for the total number of attendees select the "No. Attd" screen, to change the order select the heading a second time.

### 6.3 Country Tables

Country Table records provide the most recent information on Passport and Visa requirements along with general embassy information for the country you intend to visit.

(Note: The Country Table information is updated when new information is obtained from FAS/ITS, please be aware that processing time is an estimation, an Embassy may change their processing # of days without notice, and what may have taken 2 days to obtain may now require 5 days)

FAS provides a website for both Visa Requirements and Visa Application Forms and may be accessed via the Country Table "Details" tab.

To view the Country Table, from main FTIS menu, select "Reference Tables", "Country" (fig. 79).

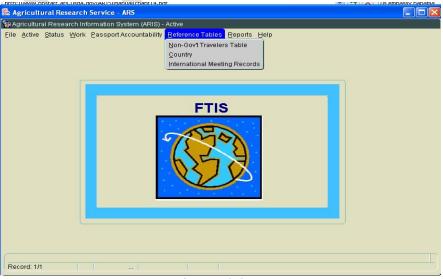
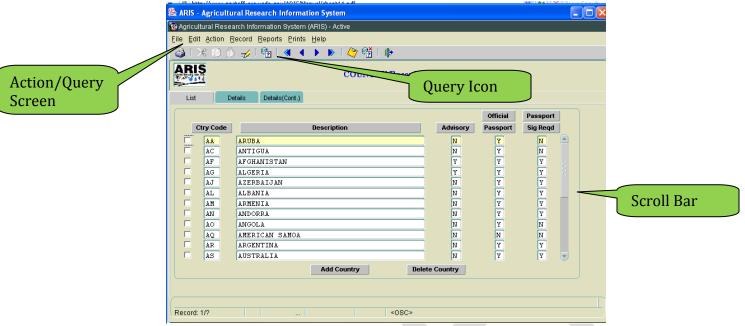


Figure 79 Country

The Country Records Tables listing will be displayed (fig. 80).



**Figure 80 Country Listing** 

To query a specific country select either the "Query Icon" or "Action/Query Screen) or you may utilize the scroll bar.

The Query Screen will be displayed (Fig. 81). Enter the Country of travel and select "Query/Execute" or the "Execute Icon".



Figure 81 Query Screen

Items matching the query will be displayed (Italy (Fig. 82)).

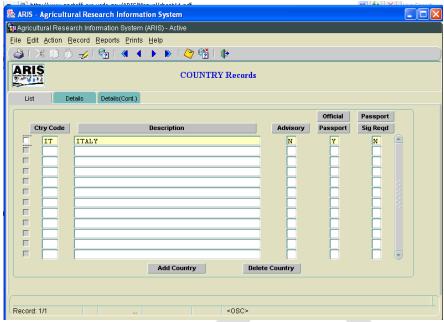


Figure 82 Italy Query

Country Record Details are available via two (2) display screens, select "Details" or "Details (Cont.) to view information (Fig. 83/84).

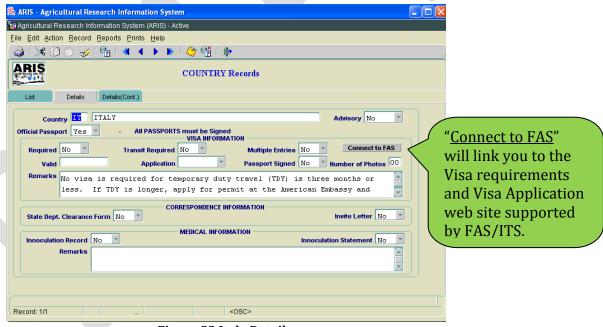


Figure 83 Italy Details

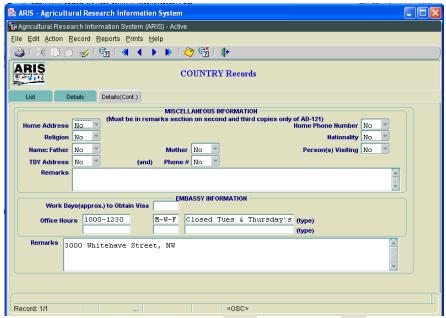
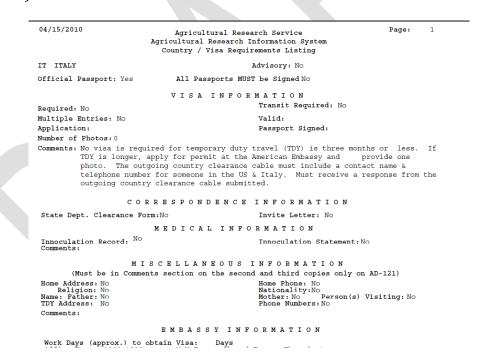


Figure 84 Italy Details (Cont)

#### 6.4 Prints

There are two print choices "Print Listing" and "Details Listing" both will be displayed the same information (Fig. 85)



**Figure 85 Country Print Display** 

## 7 Reports

There are three reports currently available in FTIS "International Meetings", "Trip Leg Retrieval", and "Blank Forms". (Fig. 86)

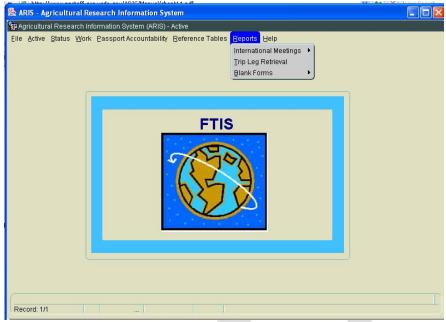


Figure 86 Report Menu

## 7.1 International Meetings

There are three reports available from International Meetings "Area Traveler", "Country", and "Meeting Name" (fig. 87).



**Figure 87 International Meetings Menu** 

A search/query **(?)** icon is available on all report screens. Query's may be open ended (all data), or you may limit data by entering information into one or both of the query selection areas.

### 7.1.1 Area Traveler

A report may be run for ALL or by Mode Code (?) and/or Travel Year (fig 88).

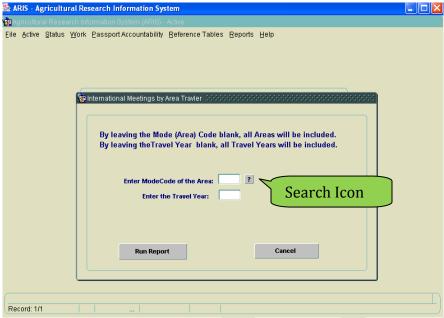


Figure 88 Area Traveler Query

## **7.1.2 Country**

A report may be run for ALL or by Country Code (?) and/or Travel Year (fig. 89)

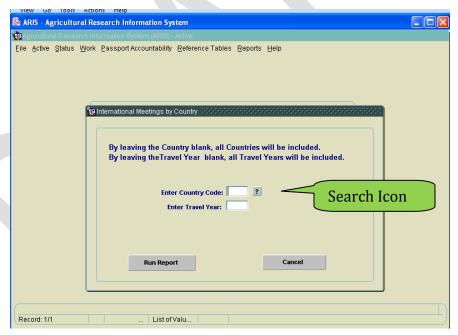
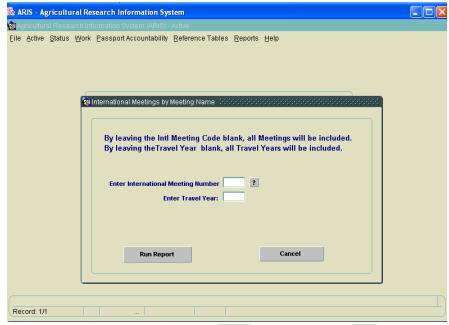


Figure 89 Country Query

## 7.1.3 Meeting Name/Number

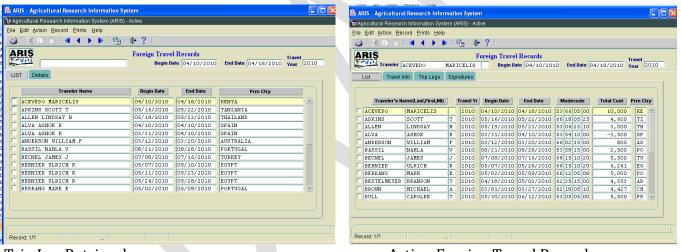
A report may be run for ALL or by International Meeting Number (?) and/or Travel Year (fig. 90).



**Figure 90 Meeting Number Queries** 

### 7.2 Trip Leg Retrieval

Trip Leg Retrieval pulls data from Foreign Travel Records, however the display is limited.

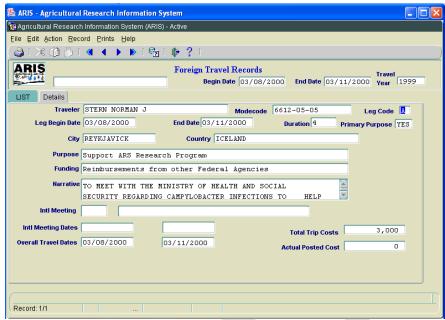


Trip Leg Retrieval

Travelers Name Begin Date End Date Primary Country

Active-Foreign Travel Record

Travelers Name
Travel Year
Begin Date
End Date
Mode code
Total cost
Primary Country



**Trip Leg - Details** 

### 7.3 Blank Forms

There are three blank forms available from Reports, "Foreign Travel Records", "Trip Report", and "Passport Tracking".

# 8 General Helpful Information

Field	Travel Information Input Requirements
Traveler's Name*	Must be chosen by using the List of Values (LOV).
Travel Year*	Enter the 4 digit FMD Travel Year (April 2010 thru March 2010 would be entered as 2010)
Title*	Enter the traveler's position title.
Mode Code*	Choose the traveler's mode code from the LOV. Once the mode code is chosen, the duty station will be filled in by the system based on the mode code.
Phone Number*	Enter the phone number, including area code of the traveler.
Location Priority	Enter a 4-digit Location designated priority number. The priority MUST be unique within the Travel Year and Location. Example, priority 1 would be entered 0001. <b>This is only entered for International Meetings.</b>
Area Priority	Enter a 4-digit Area designated priority number. The priority <b>MUST</b> be unique within the Travel Year and Area. Example, priority 1 would be entered as 0001. <b>This is only entered for International Meetings.</b>
Accounting Code	Enter the primary accounting code that will be paying ARS travel costs. Must be a 10-digit number.
ARS Project No.*	Enter the primary CRIS project. You must select the project from the LOV.
Comments	Enter desired information or information required by your Area and/or Location.
Field	Leg Input Requirements
Leg Code	Enter a single alpha code for each leg of the trip. Leg "A" must be the first stop on a trip and additional stops should be entered in alphabetical sequence.

Primary Purpose	If the current leg is the Primary Purpose of the trip, choose Yes. Only one leg of
	each trip can be designated as the primary purpose. All other legs, choose No.
City	Enter the name of the city being traveled to on this leg.
	Country Choose the country from the LOV.
Leg Begin Date*	Enter Date (mm/dd/yyyy) insert full year 2010 not 10
Leg End Date*	Enter Date (mm/dd/yyyy) insert full year 2010 not 10
Duration	Duration is system calculated.
Purpose *	Choose the purpose of travel from the LOV.
Fund Source*	Choose the source of travel funds from the LOV.
Purpose Narrative*	Enter a narrative for the purpose of travel (ex. Traveling to the Blue Fly
	meeting in Germany to present paper entitled "Hog Cholera" by J.Stetka).
	DO NOT USE ACRONYMS
Estimated Agency	Enter the estimated cost to ARS (in whole dollars) for this leg of the trip.
Cost	
International Meeting	Choose the International Meeting Number from the LOV. The International
	Meeting number should only be entered if Purpose of Travel is Presenting Paper
	at International Meeting or Attending International Meeting.
	If purpose is anything other than these two codes, the system will not allow an
	International meeting number. The meeting must be in the Country designated
	on the Leg record. (Note: If an international meeting number has not yet been
	assigned, contact your ATA or the Travel Office).
Contributing	Enter the name of the Contributing Organization. Abbreviations may be used.
Organization	
Organization Type	Choose from the LOV the Contributing Organization Type.
Funds Contributed	Enter the amount of funds contributed (in whole dollars) for this leg of the trip.
Est. Leg Cost	Generated by the system and cannot be modified.
Action Type	Select A or D to indicate if the leg is approved or disapproved
Field	OSEC Input Requirements
Role of Traveler*	The role of the traveler should specifically state the tasks and/or
	responsibilities of the traveler as they relate to the individual leg of the trip
Benefit to USDA*	The benefit to USDA must be clearly stated and concise. Simply being
	invited to attend an event is not sufficient; the justification must indicate
	how the travel or attendance at a meeting or conference will specifically
	benefit the mission of the Agency and USDA. Simply stating that the trip
	ties in to a USDA or ARS priority is not sufficient. There needs to be an
	explanation of how the trip ties into the priority and how it provides a
	benefit under that priority.

Note: \* indicates a required field.

Query Symbol	Meaning and Use
: (colon)	<b>Range/Between:</b> Used as a separator between the start and end values in a range. Can be used for all data types, including dates. (Example - 10/1/01:9/30/02 retrieves all records with values on or between the two dates)
; (semicolon)	<b>Or:</b> Used as a separator in a list of query items in a single line, i.e. potato;tomato. Retrieves all records with potato <b>or</b> tomato. <b>Note:</b> A line cannot end with a semicolon, i.e. tomato;potato;

! (exclamation point)	<b>But Not:</b> Used to narrow query criteria, i.e. <b>A:X!E;U</b> queries for all projects A (active) through X (expired) but not E (terminated) <b>or</b> U (unfunded). <b>Note:</b> Cannot be used in every searchable field.
% (percent) Note: It is always preferable to use the % at the end of every query string.	Used as a "wildcard" to broaden query criteria. The % is used before, after, or before and after the query string.

